



CITY OF DURHAM | DURHAM COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA



Date: January 4, 2016

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager
From: Steven L. Medlin, AICP, City-County Planning Director
Subject: Grant Project Ordinance Amendment – Historic Preservation Fund Grant

Summary. The City of Durham, on behalf of Preservation Durham, was awarded a Historic Preservation Fund Grant to hire an intern for the Rosenwald Schools Conference held in Durham in 2015. City Council approved a Grant Project Ordinance (GPO) as part of the Planning Department's FY 2016 budget. Due to a change in the project budget, an amended GPO is required.

Recommendation. The Planning staff recommends that the City Council adopt the amendment to the Grant Project Ordinance.

Background. Each year the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources (NCDRC), through the State Historic Preservation Office, accepts applications for the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) Pass-Through Grant program. The HPF is a federal program administered by the National Parks Service of the United States Department of the Interior. The grants are limited to Certified Local Governments (CLG), although the CLG may apply on behalf of a non-profit or educational institution. Local matching funds are required, but may be supplied by the partnering non-profit agency or private donor.

In February 2015, with the unanimous endorsement of the Durham Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), the City of Durham submitted a grant application on behalf of Preservation Durham to hire an intern to assist with planning the Rosenwald Schools Conference to be held in Durham in June 2015. In May 2015 the Planning Department was notified that the Commission had been awarded a grant in the amount of \$5,000 to be matched locally with \$3,468 by Preservation Durham. No City funds are required for the local match; however the grant may only be awarded to and administered by a CLG.

The actual funds expended by Preservation Durham for the intern was \$ 7,822.27, which is less than the \$8,468 originally awarded. The NCDRC has determined that the local match can be reduced to \$2,822.27 with no change in the grant amount of \$5,000. Due to this change in budget, an amended GPO is required.

Issues. The local matching funds for this grant, totaling \$2,822.27, are being donated by Preservation Durham. Since the HPF functions as a reimbursement grant, the grant project ordinance is set up for the total grant amount as opposed to solely the local match amount. This will allow the City to encumber the full amount of the grant and be reimbursed in accordance with the grant/match ratio. The HPF grant has a federally mandated deadline of August 31, 2016, with no option to extend.

Fiscal Impact. No financial impacts are anticipated as part of this project since the local matching grant funds will be donated by Preservation Durham.

SDBE Impact. None.

Alternatives. The City Council could approve the grant project ordinance, approve the ordinance with changes or modifications, disapprove the ordinance, or delay action on this item.

Staff Contact. Scott Whiteman, AICP, Planning Supervisor, 560-4137 ext. 28253, scott.whiteman@durhamnc.gov

Attachments

Attachment 1, Historic Preservation Fund FY2016 Grant Project Ordinance

Attachment 2, Grant Award Letter, NC Department of Cultural Resources

Attachment 3, Amended Grant Contract